

Appln. No. 10/823,016
Reply to Office Action of Sep. 20, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A steam turbine comprising: a high-pressure module ~~consisting of~~including a single stage of blades, a low-pressure module, a speed-reducing gearbox, and an alternator, wherein said high-pressure module has a one-piece nozzle and said high-pressure module is provided with a single steam adjustment valve.
2. (original) The steam turbine according to claim 1 wherein each of said high-pressure module and of said low-pressure module includes a rotor and wherein said rotor of said high-pressure module and said rotor of said low-pressure module is driven by said speed-reducing gearbox.
3. (canceled)
4. (currently amended) The steam turbine according to claim 1 wherein said ~~high-pressure module embodies the shape of a converging-diverging nozzle~~ one-piece nozzle includes a channel that converges and then diverges in the direction from the inlet to the outlet thereof.
5. (currently amended) The steam turbine according to claim 4 wherein said one-piece nozzle is a multi-channel nozzle.
6. (original) The steam turbine according to claim 1 wherein said high-pressure module includes a moving wheel that is constrained to rotate with a shaft and that supports said blades and wherein said moving wheel and said shaft comprise a one-piece unit.
7. (original) The steam turbine according to claim 6 wherein said shaft is coupled to said speed-reducing gearbox.
8. (original) The steam turbine according to claim 7 wherein said shaft is connected directly to said speed-reducing gearbox.

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9. (canceled)

10. (original) The steam turbine according to claim 1 wherein said high-pressure module is provided with an independent bearing.

11. (new) A steam turbine comprising:
an alternator;
a speed-reducing gearbox coupled to said alternator by a low-speed shaft;
a low pressure module coupled to said speed-reducing gearbox by a first high-speed shaft; and
a high-pressure module coupled to said speed-reducing gearbox by a second high-speed shaft, wherein said high-pressure module includes:
a single stage of blades,
a moving wheel that is constrained to rotate with the second high-speed shaft and that supports said blades,
a one-piece nozzle; and
a single steam adjustment valve that adjusts a flow rate of the steam to the one-piece nozzle and the blades.

12. (new) The steam turbine according to claim 11 wherein the one-piece nozzle has a profile that includes channels that converge and then diverge in the direction from the inlet to the outlet thereof.

13. (new) The steam turbine according to claim 11 wherein said moving wheel is attached to a high-pressure module shaft, and said high-pressure module shaft is coupled to said second high-speed shaft.

14. (new) The steam turbine according to claim 11 wherein said moving wheel and said high-pressure module shaft comprise a one-piece unit.

15. (new) The steam turbine according to claim 14 wherein said shaft is connected directly to said speed-reducing gearbox.

16. (new) The steam turbine according to claim 11 wherein said high-pressure module is provided with an independent bearing.

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17. (new) A high-pressure module for a steam turbine, the high-pressure module comprising:
a shaft;
a single stage of blades;
a moving wheel that is constrained to rotate with the shaft and that supports said blades;
a one-piece nozzle; and
a single steam adjustment valve that adjusts a flow rate of the steam to the one-piece nozzle and the blades.

18. (new) The high-pressure module according to claim 17 wherein the one-piece nozzle has a profile that includes channels that converge and then diverge in the direction from the inlet to the outlet thereof.

19. (new) The high-pressure module according to claim 11 wherein said moving wheel and said shaft comprise a one-piece unit.

20. (new) The high-pressure module according to claim 17 further comprising a bearing that supports said shaft.